1:Gabb N-5 (1873-1874) 1876
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411 front end, from two to even four feet long, is made of the same wood as the bow. For fish this is sharpened to a point and is barbed on one, two, or even three edges, or is made round. For quadrupeds, the wood is [22] shorter, not barbed, and is tipped with a lance-like head made by laboriously grinding down an old knife blade to the requisite form. For small birds, the head ends in a broad round button, flat on the face. The Tiribis use also a little arrow, ending in a slightly open bunch of small [227] reeds. These are for killing a fish, common in the Tilorio, never more than five or six inches long, and which rests attached to rocks by a sucking surface. The fish is so small that several points are necessary to the arrow, so that if one does not strike another may. No poison is used on the arrows, and, in fact the people seem to know of none. In their quarrels, a stick is used over six feet long, nearly an inch thick and about two inches wide, and made of the same wood as the bows, arrows, and planting-sticks. It is very heavy and is grasped by the fingers and thumbs of both hands in such a manner that they are guarded from a blow. They guard and strike an "over-blow" always holding by both hands. They are going out of use now that the people have discovered [691] the easier, but more dangerous process of litigation. Cracked heads and broken arms give way to damages. For killing small birds the blow-gun [223] is used. This is a tube seven or eight feet long, made by punching and burning the pith out from the heart of a palm trunk, nearly two inches thick. They are made very straight and true inside, and are provided with a double sight on top, made of two glass beads placed half an inch apart: when finished they are covered with some resin or a species of pitch to keep them from cracking or warping. The missiles are clay balls. These, previously prepared are carried in a little net, with them there are two bone implements. One, simply a straight heavy piece of bone used to drive a ball out of the tube by its weight, in case of sticking. The other is similar in appearance, but the end is worked into a round pit with sharp edges, for trimming the balls to the proper size and shape. During the war between the Bri-bris and Tiribis, at the beginning of this [713] century, the principal arm used was an iron-headed lance fastened to a shaft barely four feet long. For defense, round shields were carried on the arm, made of the thickest part of the hide of the tapir. I was fortunate enough to secure specimens of both, together with nearly all the other implements, &c., described in the present paper. They are all in the Smithsonian Museum.

All people have some kind of music which doubtless gives pleasure to 534 them, although to our unappreciative ears it may sound rude and disagreeable. The Marimba, an African instrument, found all over semi-civilized Central America, is unknown here. I cannot understand the surprise of an eminent African traveler, who writes wonderingly of the coincidence, of finding this instrument in use in Africa and among the Indians of Central America. It was introduced with the African slaves and has been retained among their descendants and neighbors. The

262 fish are eaten when the Indians go to the
825 Pacific coast for salt. A large and small clam which come from the coast are also favorite foods.

224 The *Boruca* prefer to hunt in groups of two or three and without dogs. Their favorite time for hunting is when the moon is new, and, strangely enough, on Tuesday and Thursday. Night hunting is almost never practised, as this is the time when the poisonous snakes roam, the most dreaded of which is the bushmaster (*Lachaesis muta*). Traps are
223 used for birds, and are generally placed in the rice fields or in the corn fields. The traps are made by the men with cane (*Gynerium sagittatum* [Aubl.] Beauv.) and are box-shaped, but without a bottom. They are placed in the fields with food inside and sustained at one end by a small stick which is broken in two, but is balanced one end on top of the other. A string is fastened to one portion of the broken stick, and is left on the ground next to the food. The bird enters the trap, and walking, moves the string, which in turn pulls aside the piece of stick, and the box drops, imprisoning the bird. Sling shots are used by the boys to
[411 shoot birds. The bow and arrow for hunting
177] have entirely disappeared, their place being taken by the shot gun and rifle.

226 **Fishing.** The *Boruca* have five ways of catching fish. One manner is with a vine
[824 (*Serjania cornigera* Turcz.). They also mash
278] the bark of the *espavel* (*Anarcardium excelsum* [Bert. & Balb.] Skeels) and sometimes the bark of the sandbox tree, *javillo* (*Hura polyandra* Baill.). This last is less effective. To fish with vines or barks, a portion of the river is hemmed in by the men who construct a wall of stone at the upper and the lower end. They then mash the material chosen and throw it in the dammed section. The fish come to the surface stupefied, and are gathered by the men. The *Boruca* prefer to fish, however, with spears. These are of two sorts: long white canes between 57 and 58 inches long with an
[227] extended tip of pejibaye palm about 18 inches in length with several barbs at the end, and a shorter cane about 40 inches long, also with a pejibaye end, but without barbs and with a steel needle-like protrusion fastened to the pejibaye section. The short spear is used in the local creek for small fish, while the longer one is

262 (*Carica* sp.), the melonlike fruit of the vine
137 *Passiflora vitifolia* HBK and the fruit of the
252 guava (*Inga spectabilis* [Vahl] Willd.) are eaten raw.

Palmitos of various classes including the bitter and sweet are roasted, baked in ashes, or eaten raw. Wild cacao (*Theobroma simiarum* Donnell-Smith and *Theobroma angustifolium* Moc. & Sesse) and *pataste* (*Theobroma bicolor* Humb. & Bonpl.) are used like the cultivated cacao. Certain white mushrooms which grow on old tree trunks are also boiled and eaten.

262 **Food Animals (Hunting).** Many wild animals
136 are consumed by the Talamancans including monkeys, *guatusa* (*Dasyprocta* sp.), rabbits, boars (*Tayassu pecari spiradens* Goldman), pigs (*Pecari tajacu cruspiger* Bangs), deer (*Mazama americana cerasina* Hollister), and tapir, in spite of the fact that certain groups still maintain food tabus (*see* Tabus). The
224 favorite way to hunt is with one or more com-
[231] panions and with dogs. There are other methods, however, still in practice.

411 The most common equipment consists of the *pejibaye* or black palm bow, arrow, and blow gun (fig. 3, *c*).[1/4] The bow is relatively short, measuring around 2.35 meters, and is held in a horizontal position, the finger pulling the string (fig. 3, *a–b*).[1/8] Arrowheads are thrust into a wild cane shaft as far as possible, fastened with wax, and tied with *pita* (agave thread) (*see* Fibers) so that when the arrow is shot
224 the head is not lost. For jaguars and other
411 large animals, the heads are made of metal (usually an old knife blade) and of *pejibaye*
●[223] palm. For birds and small animals, there are barbed, straight, and stunning heads all made of *pejibaye* or black palm.

[223] Blow guns are also used for birds and small animals. They are from 5 feet 7 inches to 5
411 feet 10 inches or more in length. When pos-
824 sible, they are made of *morkí*[72] (*Saurauia costaricensis* Donnell-Smith), although *kurá* wood is sometimes used. Wood for blow guns
[821] is cut at the wane of the moon as it is sup-
822 posedly less pulpy at that time. The method of manufacture is simple. The piece of wood

[192] [72] It is interesting to note that gun or rifle is called in Chirripó *mogLɔ* meaning literally "blow gun stick"; in Cabécar *sakámogLɔ* or "our place rifle" or

[1/4] [see category 116, END PLATE 2 - ANALYST.]

[P. 14(B)]

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Bribri
Cabecar

322 selected is placed over the fire to soften. A wire is heated and is pushed through the length of the wood to remove the soft pulp. If wire is not available, a *pejibaye* rod is substituted. The inside is smoothed by wrapping *chumico* [824] leaves (*Curatella americana* L.) around a *pejibaye* rod and rubbing it up and down. The gun is then filled with ashes and the outside [237] covered with beeswax and carbon to preserve it. Two shells, beads, beetles, or lumps 411 of wax are often used as sights (fig. 12, *d*).[1] The balls for ammunition are made of clay which has been dried, ground fine, and then mixed with water, worked with the fingers and rounded with a wild turkey bone as [415] needed. They are carried in string bags.

Lances made of *pejibaye* wood with metal heads are occasionally seen. When rifles or [415] shotguns are available, rubber bags are used to carry a powder horn, wick, etc.

● [223] Bolas are made by small boys for hunting [857] birds. *Guarumo* fiber is used instead of cord and river stones are used for ammunition. A loop of *pita* (agave thread) is made in one end into which the forefinger is placed. Then both ends of the bola are grasped in the hands and it is swung over the head.

223 A resin called *yok* in Cabécar is put on a [314] tree where birds are apt to feed. Their feet stick in this, prohibiting escape. Wild boars 224 and large game are often trapped. This is accomplished by tying a rope to a tree beside a path and making a slipknot at the other end, leaving a wide loop. The loop is placed in the center of the path and the animal is snared in it.

At night, in Talamanca, another type of lure is used. Crab claws, with bits of meat left in them, are tied to a piece of string about 22 yards long. Bananas, or whatever fruit the animal being hunted uses for food, is attached to one end of this string. The string is tied to a stick which is thrust into the ground to hold the bait in place. The hunters use a leaf to shield their light and remain hidden. They are alerted by the sound of the claws rattling and shoot their prey with a bow and arrow or a [262] gun. There is a superstition connected with

[192] "blow gun stick"; in Bribri *skamokaL* signifying the same as in Cabécar.

[1] [see category 116 - END PLATE 11 - ANALYST.]